earnings and the need to augment domestic availability of agricultural products, while at the same time protecting and providing avenues for rural employment.

Mega Dairy Project in Karnataka

1243. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Dairy Development Corporation has come forward to set up a six lakh litre capacity MEGA dairy in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the proposed Mega Dairy; and

(c) when will it be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) is not setting up a Mega Dairy at Bangalore. But, the Bangalore Milk Union is setting up a Mega Dairy of six lakh litres per day at Bangalore with financial assistance from NDDB.

(b) Rs. 38.70 crore.

(c) It is expected to be set up by October, 2000.

Foodgrains Allocated to Drought Hit States

1244. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recently drought affected States of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh lifted an insignificant portion of the foodgrains stock allocated to them for the drought affected areas and instead preferred financial assistance to meet the situation;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the percentage of foodgrains allocated *lifted* by each of the affected States and the reasons for their refusal to lift the foodgrains; and

(c) the extent of the financial assistance given by Government as against their demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) In the wake of drought, a special allocation of 13.81 lakh tonnes foodgrains was made to the